

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

GAYLYNN RICHARDS,

Civil No. 3:07-CV-5390-RBL-KLS

Plaintiff,

vs.

ORDER FOR REMAND

MICHAEL J. ASTRUE,  
Commissioner of Social Security,

Defendant.

The COURT, upon review of the record herein, and noting the stipulation of the parties,  
does hereby ORDER:

The above-captioned case is reversed and remanded to the Commissioner of Social  
Security (Commissioner) for further administrative proceedings under sentence four of 42 U.S.C.  
Section 405(g).

On remand, the Appeals Council shall direct an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) to the  
Appeals Council will direct an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) to:

1 (1) Obtain evidence from a medical expert to clarify the nature and severity of  
2 Plaintiff's pain disorder impairment during the period at issue. 20 C.F.R. § 404.1527(f); Social  
3 Security Ruling (SSR) 96-6p, available at 1996 WL 374180.  
4

5 (2) Give further consideration to the treating and examining source opinions, including  
6 the opinion evidence provided by Katherine A. Brzezinski-Stein, M.D. 20 C.F.R.  
7 § 404.1527; SSR 96-2p, available at 1996 WL 374188; SSR 96 5p, , available at 1996 WL  
8 374183.  
9

10 (3) Give further consideration to nonexamining source opinions, including the opinion  
11 evidence provided by Trevelyan Houck, Ph.D. 20 C.F.R. § 404.1527(f); SSR 96-6p.

12 (4) The hearing decision should provide rationale that clearly explains the weight given  
13 to such opinion evidence and the specific reasoning for the weight given.

14 (5) As appropriate, the ALJ may request the treating and examining sources to  
15 provide additional evidence and/or further clarification of the opinions and medical source  
16 statements about what Plaintiff can still do despite the impairments through September 30, 2000.  
17 20 C.F.R. § 404.1512.  
18

19 (6) As necessary, the ALJ will further evaluate Plaintiff's subjective complaints and  
20 provide rationale in accordance with the disability regulations pertaining to evaluation of  
21 symptoms. 20 C.F.R. § 404.1529; SSR 96-7p, available at 1996 WL 374186.  
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23 (7) The ALJ will give further consideration to Plaintiff's maximum residual functional  
24 capacity and provide appropriate rationale with specific references to evidence of record in  
25 support of the assessed limitations. 20 C.F.R. § 404.1545; SSR 96-8p.  
26  
27

1 (8) The ALJ will obtain supplemental evidence from a vocational expert to clarify the  
2 effect of the assessed limitations on Plaintiff's occupational base. SSR 83-12, , available at 1983  
3 31253; SSR 83-14, available at 1983 31254.  
4

5 (9) The hypothetical questions should clearly reflect the specific capacity/limitations  
6 established by the record as a whole. The ALJ will ask the vocational expert to identify examples  
7 of appropriate jobs and to state the incidence of such jobs in the national economy.  
8 20 C.F.R. § 404.1566. Further, before relying on the vocational expert evidence the ALJ will  
9 identify and resolve any conflicts between the occupational evidence provided by the vocational  
10 expert and information in the Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT) and its companion  
11 publication, the Selected Characteristics of Occupations. SSR 00-4p, available at 2000 WL  
12 1898704.  
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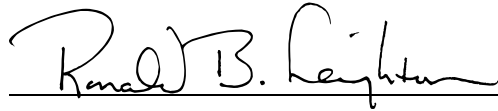
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1 (10) Reasonable attorney fees shall be awarded, upon proper application, pursuant to  
2 the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412

3 DATED this 13th day of February, 2008.  
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11 RONALD B. LEIGHTON  
12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

13 Recommended for entry by

14  
15 s/Karen L. Strombom  
16 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

17 Presentd by:

18 s/ TERRY E. SHEA, WSB # 27609  
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20 Attorney for Defendant  
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